

# VOLUNTEER GUARDIANS AD LITEM CHANGE LIVES

"Being in foster care is living in a constant state of flux. Homes, schools, families...everything is always changing, often suddenly and without warning. The only constant was my CASA volunteer. Without her I would have been lost in the system." **MELISSA, FORMER FOSTER YOUTH**

## THE PROBLEM: OVERWHELMED SYSTEMS



will find themselves in U.S. foster care & family court systems this year.



The average child will spend nearly 2 years (20 months) in foster care



On average each one of those children will change homes three times

There are over 2,600 children in the dependency court system in Broward County alone.

## THE SOLUTION: CITIZEN VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer guardians ad litem, trained volunteers who help abused and neglected children find safe, permanent homes.



**A WISE INVESTMENT**  
One year of volunteer advocacy costs less than one month of foster care.



1 staff member



supports 28 volunteers



serving 69 children

## THE RESULTS: BRIGHTER FUTURES



**GAL PROGRAMS CHANGE LIVES**  
A child with a GAL volunteer is more likely to find a safe, permanent home.



A child with a volunteer advocate is half as likely to re-enter the foster-care system



And, they are more likely to succeed in school and less likely to spend three or more years in care.

## OUR VISION: SERVING EVERY CHILD



**BE PART OF THE SOLUTION**  
Learn how you can help change children's lives every day.  
[VoicesBroward.org](http://VoicesBroward.org)



**238,000** abused and neglected children had a CASA or GAL volunteer speaking up for their best interests in the last year.



**400,000** children are waiting for a volunteer empowered to find them a safe, loving, permanent home

"CASA is an organization of people with a proven record of service, excellence, high standards, determination and an unwavering commitment to abused and neglected children and to advocating for justice for all children." **JUDGE JOYCE WILLIAMS WARREN**

Voices for Children of Broward County is part of a unique collaboration with the 17th Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program. Our mission is to raise funds to ensure that every abused, neglected and abandoned child in Broward County has a court-appointed Guardian ad Litem and that financial resources are available for each child's accompanying health, educational, and social needs.

